



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

BURN AWARENESS WEEK

- WHEREAS: Burn injuries comprise one of the leading causes of unintentional death or injury in the United States. Such injuries may be caused by heat, fire-flame, chemicals, electricity, sunlight or radiation; and
- WHEREAS: Burn injuries most often occur in the home. Children, older adults and individuals with disabilities are especially vulnerable to burn injuries and nearly one-third of all burn injuries occur in those under the age of 15; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, approximately 486,000 individuals in the U.S. receive treatment for burn injuries. In 2016, there were 3,280 deaths as a result of fire and smoke inhalation, and an additional 40,000 individuals were treated in hospitals for burn-related injuries; and
- WHEREAS: Children under the age of five are roughly twice as likely to suffer from burn injuries that require emergency medical treatment, while young adults ages 20-29 are approximately 50 percent more likely to experience burn injuries than the general population; and
- WHEREAS: Today, almost 97 percent of those who suffer from burn injuries will survive; and
- WHEREAS: Individuals affected by burn injuries may sustain serious scarring or physical disabilities, and many will experience adjustment difficulties. For this reason, aftercare support for the physical and emotional effects of burn injuries is essential to the recovery of survivors; and
- WHEREAS: Research and medical advances have significantly improved the care and treatment of burn injuries, aided rehabilitation, shortened hospital stays and increased burn survival rates; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia recognizes the many individuals and organizations that remain committed to treating and supporting those affected by burn injuries, as well as the firefighters, first responders and other public safety professionals who work to prevent burn injuries and promote proper safety measures; and
- WHEREAS: During Burn Awareness Week, an initiative of the American Burn Association, burn, fire and safety educators come together to share the causes, frequency and impact of burn injuries, as well as the appropriate measures to prevent these injuries and best care for those that are affected; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 4-10, 2018, as BURN AWARENESS WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF